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Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University
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fact sheet

WOMEN IN MUNICIPAL OFFICE

In 1985, women comprised **14.3%** of mayors and municipal council members in the states for which data were available.[1] There were **14,672** women elected to these posts out of a total of 102,329 officials. The percentage of women holding municipal and township offices more than tripled from 1975 to 1985, rising from 4% to 14.3%.

The **highest percentages** of women elected to municipal office were found in the District of Columbia (50%) and Hawaii (30%), each of which has only one incorporated municipality. Of the states with a substantial number of available positions[2], Michigan ranked highest with 27.5% women among its elected municipal officials.[3]

After the District of Columbia and Hawaii, the ten states with the highest proportions of women in municipal office (mayors and council members combined) in 1985 were:

State	% of Women in Municipal Office	State	% of Women in Municipal Office
Michigan[3]	27.5	Wyoming	17.8
Alaska	23.1	California	17.8
Oregon	22.2	Arizona	17.6
Washington	19.3	Delaware	17.5
Connecticut	18.7	Ohio	16.5

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In **May 1988**, among the **100** largest cities in the U.S., 12 have women mayors; 3 women serve in cities among the 10 largest. In order of city population, they are:

Rank by Population[4]	City	Name	Party*	Year First Took Office
4	Houston, TX	**Kathy Whitmire**	D	1982
7	San Diego, CA	**Maureen O'Connor**	NP	1986
8	Dallas, TX	**Annette Strauss**	NP	1987
35	Pittsburg, PA	**Sophie Masloff**	D	1988
44	Charlotte, NC	**Sue Myrick**	R	1987
46	Toledo, OH	**Donna Owens**	R	1984
49	Sacramento, CA	**Anne Rudin**	NP	1983
54	Tampa, FL	**Sandra Freedman**	NP	1986
58	Corpus Christi, TX	**Betty Turner**	NP	1987
84	Stockton, CA	**Barbara Fass**	NP	1985
86	Little Rock, AR	**Lottie Shackelford**	NP	1987
95	Spokane, WA	**Vicki McNeill**	NP	1986

* NP indicates mayoral election is nonpartisan.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors reports that in January 1988, of the 881 mayors of U.S. cities with populations over 30,000, **100**, or **11.4%**, are women.

In addition to **Lottie Shackelford**, who serves as mayor of one of the 100 largest U.S. cities, there are 2 other black women mayors serving in cities with populations over 100,000: **Carrie Saxon Perry** of Hartford, CT and **Jessie Rattley** of Newport News, VA. The first black woman to serve as mayor of a city with a population over 100,000 was **Loretta Glickman**; she was chosen as mayor of Pasadena, CA in 1982.

Among the 25 women serving in the **U.S. Congress** in 1988 (2 in the Senate and 23 in the House) 4 previously served on municipal councils. They are: Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD); and Representatives Barbara Kennelly (D-CT), Jan Meyers (R-KS), and Mary Rose Oakar (D-OH).

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[1] Includes data from the District of Columbia. Complete data are not available for the following states: IL, IN, KY, MO, PA, WI. CAWP currently updates municipal figures every four years.

[2] Other states with fewer than 100 incorporated municipalities are: NV, 17; RI, 39; DE, 56; AZ, 76; WY, 91; NM, 96.

[3] Michigan is the only state in which clerks and treasurers are included in these figures. They are elected ex officio to the councils and vote on policy matters before those bodies.

[4] According to 1986 data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

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According to the Joint Center for Political Studies, of the 303 black mayors serving nationwide in 1987, **48**, or 15.8%, were **black women**. Black women held **509**, or 20.5%, of the 2483 municipal council seats held by black officials in 1987.[1]

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The largest U.S. city yet to elect a woman mayor is Chicago, IL, where **Jane Byrne** (D) served from 1979-1983. Past women mayors elected to serve among the 100 largest[2] cities have included:

City	Name	Party*	Years Served
Austin, TX	**Carole McClellan**	D	1977-1983
Chicago, IL	**Jane Byrne**	D	1979-1983
Cincinnati, OH	**Bobbie Stern**	NP	1975-76/78-79
Hartford, CT	**Ann Uccello**	R	1967-1971
Honolulu, HI	**Eileen Anderson**	D	1981-1985
Huntington Beach, CA	**Norma B. Gibbs**	R	1975-1976
	Ruth Bailey	R	1984-1985
Lincoln, NE	**Helen Boosalis**	D	1975-1983
Long Beach, CA	**Eunice Sato**	R	1980-1982
Oklahoma City, OK	**Patience Latting**	D	1971-1983
Phoenix, AZ	**Margaret Hance**	R	1974-76/78-80
Portland, OR	**Dorothy Lee**	R	1949-1952
Sacramento, CA	**Belle Cooledge**	NP	1948-1949
St. Petersburg, FL	**Corinne Freeman**	R	1978-1985
San Antonio, TX	**Lila Cockrell**	D	1975-1981
San Francisco, CA	**Dianne Feinstein**	D	1978-1988
San Jose, CA	**Janet Gray Hayes**	D	1974-1982
Worcester, MA	**Sara Robertson**	D	1982-1983

*NP indicates mayoral election is nonpartisan.

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Elected in 1887, **Susanna Salter** of Argonia, KS was the first woman mayor in the United States; she was paid one dollar for a year of service. Seattle, WA was the first major city to elect a woman mayor. **Bertha Landes**, who had served as president of the city council, was elected mayor of Seattle in 1926.[3]

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Women have presided over both major national organizations of municipal officials. In addition to **Pamela Plumb**, Portland, ME Councilor, who currently serves as president of the **National League of Cities**, three other women have held that post: **Cathy Reynolds**, Denver, CO City Councilwoman-at-Large, 1987; **Jessie Rattley**, then Newport News, VA City Councilwoman, 1980; **Phyllis Lamphere**, former Seattle, WA City Council President, 1977. The first and only woman to serve as president of the **U.S. Conference of Mayors** was **Helen Boosalis**, then mayor of Lincoln, NE, who served in 1981-82.

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Data from a 1981 Center for the American Woman and Politics survey of women in elected office show:

- Women mayors and council members are most frequently between the ages of 40 and 59.
- More than half of all women mayors and council members hold jobs outside of the home at the same time they are serving in office.
- Most women mayors and council members who list occupations outside the home are in professional/technical or clerical/secretarial fields. More than 10% of the women municipal officials are elementary or secondary school teachers, by far the most common single occupation listed by the women.
- More than half of all women mayors and council members have had at least some college education.
- More than 3/4 of all women mayors and council members are currently married, and of those, almost all report that their husbands are supportive of their political careers.
- Fewer than half of all women mayors and council members have children younger than 12 years old.[4]

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[1] 1988 data on the number of black women who are serving as mayors and municipal council members are not yet available from the Joint Center for Political Studies.

[2] U.S. Bureau of the Census data on city population was used to determine the 100 largest cities during the years each woman served.

[3] Women in American Politics, Martin Gruberg (Oshkosh, Wisconsin: Academic Press, 1968).

[4] From a series of CAWP studies entitled "Bringing More Women into Public Office," conducted under a grant from the Charles H. Revson Foundation.

WOMEN MAYORS AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEMBERS: A COMPARISON BETWEEN 1975 AND 1985

STATE	Number of Women Mayors and Municipal Council Members 1975	1985	Percentage of Women (Rank Among States) 1985		Percentage Increase from 1975 to 1985
AL	85	281	11.0	(33)	230
AK	35	233	23.1	(2)	566
AZ	39	87	17.6	(8)	123
AR	160	365	11.9	(28)	128
CA	220	465	17.8	(7)	111
CO	170	315	16.5	(11)	85
CT	130	240	18.7	(5)	85
DE	22	57	17.5	(9)	159
DC	3	7	50.0	(+)	*
FL	174	311	13.3	(79)	19
GA	77	251	7.8	(40)	226
HI	1	3	30.0	(+)	*
ID	45	141	13.2	(21)	213
IL	---	---	----	NA ----	---
IN	---	---	----	NA ----	---
IA	304	732	12.9	(22)	141
KS	165	445	11.9	(29)	170
KY	---	---	----	NA ----	---
LA	65	183	11.7	(30)	182
ME	87	243	10.4	(36)	179
MD	59	133	15.2	(14)	125
MA	48	217	11.3	(32)	352
MI	*	2,779	27.5	(1)	*
MN	227	542	12.8	(25)	139
MS	82	176	10.5	(35)	115
MO	---	---	----	NA ----	---
MT	57	110	14.4	(15)	93
NE	83	241	7.6	(41)	190
NV	2	15	16.1	(13)	*
NH	39	113	10.7	(34)	190
NJ	213	451	13.2	(20)	112
NM	33	86	16.3	(12)	161
NY	*	797	14.4	(17)	*
NC	141	337	12.2	(26)	139
ND	69	174	8.5	(39)	152
OH	*	1,129	16.5	(10)	*
OK	92	312	10.2	(37)	239
OR	175	344	22.2	(3)	97
PA	---	---	----	NA ----	---
RI	21	30	12.8	(24)	43
SC	72	184	12.2	(27)	156
SD	50	149	8.9	(38)	198
TN	50	144	7.1	(42)	188
TX	277	786	12.8	(23)	184
UT	40	137	11.5	(31)	243
VT	44	87	6.3	(43)	98
VA	117	211	13.3	(18)	80
WA	153	341	19.3	(4)	123
WV	120	202	13.6	(16)	68
WI	---	---	----	NA ----	---
WY	34	86	17.8	(6)	153
NATIONAL	4,080	14,672	14.3		260

*The number is too small or 1975 and 1985 data are based on different assumptions so comparisons are invalid.

+The District of Columbia and Hawaii are not ranked because each has only one incorporated municipality.

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WOMEN OF COLOR IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 1988

CONGRESS In 1988, of the 25 women serving in the 100th U.S. Congress (Senate and House), 2 are women of color: **Representative Cardiss Collins** (D-IL) and **Representative Pat Saiki** (R-HI).

No woman of color has ever served in the Senate. A total of 5 Black women and 2 Asian-Pacific American women have served in the House of Representatives; all but one have been Democrats.

The first Black woman to serve in Congress was **Shirley Chisholm** (D-NY); elected in 1968, she served until 1983. Four other Black women have served in the House: **Yvonne Brathwaite Burke** (D-CA, 1973-1979), **Barbara Jordan** (D-TX, 1973-1979), **Katie Hall** (D-IN, 1982-1985), and **Cardiss Collins** (D-IL). First elected in 1973, Collins is the only Black woman serving in Congress in 1988.

Patsy Takemoto Mink (D-HI), the first Asian-Pacific American woman to serve in Congress, was elected in 1964 and served until 1977. **Pat Saiki** (R-HI), elected in 1986 and currently serving in the 100th Congress, is the second.

STATEWIDE OFFICES In 1988, of 40 women serving in statewide elective executive offices,[1] 2 are women of color: **March Fong Eu** of California and **Rebecca Vigil-Giron** of New Mexico. Both are Democrats serving as elected secretaries of state.[2]

March Fong Eu was first elected secretary of state of California in 1974; she became the first Asian-Pacific American woman elected statewide to top executive office in any state. Eu, who was also the first woman ever elected secretary of state of California, is currently serving her fourth term.

Elected in 1986, New Mexico's Secretary of State **Rebecca Vigil-Giron**, is the highest ranking Hispanic woman currently serving in elective office.

STATE LEGISLATURES In 1988, of the 1176 women state legislators serving, **128** are women of color. Thirty are senators and 98 are representatives; 121 are Democrats and 7 are Republicans.

Black women hold **95** seats in state legislatures. There are 18 senators and 77 representatives serving in 30 states; all are Democrats.[3] Black women hold 1.3% (95 out of 7461) of all seats in state legislatures and constitute 8.1% (95 out of 1176) of all women legislators.

Asian-Pacific American women hold **14** seats in state legislatures. There are 7 senators and 7 representatives serving in 3 states; 10 are Democrats and 4 are Republicans.[4] Asian-Pacific American women hold 0.2% (14 out of 7461) of all seats in state legislatures and constitute 1.2% (14 out of 1176) of all women legislators and 21.9% (14 out of 64) of all Asian-Pacific American legislators.

(continued)

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[1]These numbers do not include: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

[2]In addition, former state representative Hannah Atkins (D), who is Black, serves as the appointed secretary of state of Oklahoma.

[3]Source: Combined Joint Center for Political Studies and CAWP figures.

[4]Source: Office of Vice Chair Polly Baca at the Democratic National Committee.

Please note: this fact sheet contains the most up-to-date data available to CAWP. We would appreciate receiving any additional and/or updated information. Data on Hispanic, Asian-Pacific American, and Native American women serving on county governing boards and as municipal officials were not available at the time of printing.

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Hispanic women hold **13** seats in state legislatures. There are 3 senators and 10 representatives serving in eight states; 11 are Democrats and 2 are Republicans.[1] Hispanic women hold 0.2% (13 out of 7461) of all seats in state legislatures and constitute 1% (13 out of 1176) of all women legislators and 11.6% (13 out of 112) of all Hispanic legislators.

Native American women hold **6** seats in state legislatures. There are 2 senators and 4 representatives serving in 4 states; 5 are Democrats and 1 is a Republican.[1] Native American women hold 0.08% (6 out of 7461) of all seats in state legislatures and constitute 0.5% (6 out of 1176) of all women legislators and 15.4% (6 out of 39) of all Native American legislators.

COUNTY GOVERNING BOARDS

In 1987, **65** Black women held positions on county governing bodies, comprising 10.2% of the 640 such seats held by Black officials. In comparison, 31 Black women served on county governing bodies in 1977, holding 9.3% of the 334 such seats held by Blacks.[2]

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

In 1988, **3** Black women serve as mayors in cities with populations over 100,000. In order of city population, they are: **Lottie Shackelford** (Little Rock, AR - 86th largest city); **Jessie Ratley** (Newport News, VA - 101st); and **Carrie Saxon Perry** (Hartford, CT - 121st).

In 1987, **48**, or 15.8%, of the 303 Black mayors serving were women. Black women held **509**, or 20.5%, of the 2483 municipal council seats held by Black officials in 1987. In comparison, 12, or 7.4%, of the 162 Black mayors serving in 1977 were women. Black women held 197, or 12.6%, of the 1560 municipal council seats held by Blacks in 1977.[2]

* * * GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICE * * *

Congress

In 1988, women hold 25 seats in the 100th U.S. Congress; there are 2 women in the Senate and 23 women in the House of Representatives. Women hold 4.7% of the 535 available seats -- 2.0% of all Senate seats and 5.3% of all House seats. A total of 124 women have served in the U.S. Congress to date -- 16 in the Senate and 110 in the House. (Two women have served in both the Senate and the House.)

Statewide Offices

Women hold 40, or 12.1%, of the 330 statewide elective executive offices[3] across the country in 1988, including 3 governors and 5 lieutenant governors. In 1977 there were 22 women serving in statewide elective executive offices, including 2 governors and 3 lieutenant governors.

State Legislatures

In 1988, women hold 15.8% of all seats in state legislatures. 1176 of the 7461 state legislators serving in 1988 are women. Women hold 230, or 11.5%, of the 1995 state senate seats and 946, or 17.3%, of the 5466 state house or assembly seats. In 1977, women held 688, or 9%, of the available seats.

County Governing Boards

In 1987, women held 8.6% of all seats on county governing boards.[4] 1594 of the 18,474 county governing board members serving in 1987 were women. In 1977, women held 656, or 4%, of the available seats.

Municipal Officials

In 1985, in the states for which data were available, women comprised 14.3% of mayors and municipal council members.[5] There were 14,672 women elected to these posts out of a total of 102,329 officials. In 1977, women held 9406, or 8%, of the available seats.

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[1]Source: Office of Vice Chair Polly Baca at the Democratic National Committee.

[2]Source: Joint Center for Political Studies. Because different data collection methods are used and different states are included in CAWP and Joint Center figures on the county and municipal levels, it is not possible to calculate the percentage of all women at these levels who are Black.

[3]These numbers do not include: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

[4]There is no county commissioner equivalent in CT, RI, or VT.

[5]Includes data from the District of Columbia. Complete data were not available for the following states: IL, IN, KY, MO, PA, WI. CAWP currently updates municipal figures every four years.

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STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE WOMEN 1989

In 1989, women hold **45**, or **13.6%**, of the 330 statewide elective executive offices across the country. Among these women, 33 are Democrats, 11 are Republicans, and 1 was elected in a nonpartisan race. The 45 officials serve in 32 states and include: 3 governors, 4 lieutenant governors, 11 secretaries of state, 10 state treasurers, 1 attorney general, 6 auditors, 4 superintendents of public instruction, 1 commissioner of education, 1 commissioner of labor, 1 commissioner of agriculture, 1 tax commissioner, 1 corporation commissioner, and 1 public utilities commissioner.[1]

To date, women have been elected statewide to executive offices in 40 of the nation's 50 states. In Maine, New Hampshire, and New Jersey, the governor is the only executive elected statewide, and a woman has never served as governor in any of these three states. The other seven states where women have never been elected statewide to executive posts are: Alaska, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, North Carolina, Utah, and West Virginia.

GOVERNORS

Three women serve as **governors** in 1989.

Madeleine Kunin, a Vermont Democrat, was elected in 1984 and re-elected in 1986 and 1988. Kunin is the first woman governor elected to serve three terms. She served as lieutenant governor from 1979 to 1982 and in the Vermont House of Representatives from 1973 to 1979.

Rose Mofford, an Arizona Democrat, became governor in April of 1988 following the impeachment and conviction by the legislature of Governor Evan Mecham (R). Mofford served as secretary of state of Arizona from 1977 to 1988; she was appointed to fill a vacancy in 1977 and was subsequently elected in 1978, 1982, and 1986.

Kay Orr, a Nebraska Republican, was elected in 1986. Orr is the first Republican woman governor in the nation and the only woman to have run against another woman for a gubernatorial position. Orr served as Nebraska's state treasurer from 1981 to 1987; she was appointed to fill a vacancy in 1981 and was subsequently elected in 1982.

Kunin, Mofford, and Orr bring to 9 (8 Democrats and 1 Republican) the total number of women ever to serve as governors.

The first woman governor was **Nellie Tayloe Ross** of Wyoming. Elected to replace her deceased husband, Ross served from 1925 to 1927. **Miriam "Ma" Ferguson**, inaugurated as governor of Texas fifteen days after Ross' Wyoming inauguration, served from 1925 to 1927 and again from 1933 to 1935. Both **Lurleen Wallace** of Alabama, who served from 1967 to 1968, and Ferguson were elected as surrogates for their husbands who could not run for re-election. **Ella Grasso** of Connecticut was the first woman governor elected in her own right. She was elected in 1974 and re-elected to a second four-year term in 1978; Grasso stepped down for health reasons in December of 1980. **Dixy Lee Ray**, elected in 1976, served as governor of Washington from 1977 to 1981. **Martha Layne Collins** of Kentucky was elected in 1983 and served from 1984 through 1987.

Of the 9 women who have served as governors, 5 were elected in their own right: Grasso, Ray, Collins, Kunin, and Orr. The largest number to serve simultaneously is 3; this occurred in 1987 (Collins, Kunin, Orr) and in 1988 and 1989 (Kunin, Mofford, Orr).

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[1]None of these figures includes: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

Four women serve as lieutenant governors in 1989 among the 42 states with such positions. They are:

Martha Griffiths (D-MI), elected in 1982, re-elected in 1986;
Marlene Johnson (DFL-MN), elected in 1982, re-elected in 1986;
Evelyn Murphy (D-MA), elected in 1986;
Jo Ann Zimmerman (D-IA), elected in 1986.

To date, 17 women have served as lieutenant governors; 15 (14 Democrats, 1 Republican) were elected and 2 (1 Democrat, 1 Republican)[1] were appointed to fill vacancies.

The first woman elected lieutenant governor was **Consuelo Bailey**, a Vermont Republican. Elected in 1954, she served from 1955 to 1957. Bailey previously served as speaker of the state House of Representatives; thus, as lieutenant governor, she became the only woman in the country to have presided over both chambers of a state legislature.[1] In addition to Bailey and those now serving, the other elected women lieutenant governors, all of whom have served since 1975, were: **Martha Layne Collins** (D-KY), **Nancy Dick** (D-CO), **Evelyn Gandy** (D-MS), **Jean King** (D-HI), **Mary Anne Krupsak** (D-NY), **Madeleine Kunin** (D-VT), **Ruth Meiers** (D-ND), **Nancy Stevenson** (D-SC), **Thelma Stovall** (D-KY), and **Harriet Woods** (D-MO). The 2 appointed women lieutenant governors were: **Matilda Wilson** (R-MI), who served in 1940; and **Maude Frazier** (D-NV) who served in 1962.[1]

ADDITIONAL WOMEN IN STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

State	Name	Party
SECRETARY OF STATE - 11		
CA	March Fong Eu	D
CO	Natalie Meyer	R
CT	Julia Tashjian	D
IA	Elaine Baxter	D
MN	Joan Growe	DFL
NV	Frankie Sue Del Papa	D
NM	Rebecca Vigil-Giron	D
OR	Barbara Roberts	D
RI	Kathleen Connell	D
SD	Joyce Hazeltine	R
WY	Kathy Karpan	D

In addition, 4 women serve as appointed secretaries of state: Jane Burgio (R-NJ), Gail Shaffer (D-NY), Hannah Atkins (D-OK), Sandra Bowen (D-VA).[2]

State	Name	Party
STATE TREASURER - 10		
AR	Jimmie Lou Fisher	D
CO	Gail Schoettler	D
DE	Janet Rzewnicki	R
ID	Lydia Justice Edwards	R
IN	Marjorie O'Laughlin	R
KS	Joan Finney	D
LA	Mary Landrieu	D
OH	Mary Ellen Withrow	D
PA	Catherine Baker Knoll	D
TX	Ann Richards	D

In addition, Lucille Maurer (D-MD) and Georgie Thomas (R-NH) were elected treasurers by their state legislatures; Feather O'Connor (R) is the appointed treasurer of NJ.

State	Name	Party
ATTORNEY GENERAL[3] - 1		
VA	Mary Sue Terry	D

In addition, Grace Schaible is the appointed attorney general of AK.

State	Name	Party
STATE AUDITOR - 6		
AL	Jan Cook	D
AR	Julia Hughes Jones	D
IN	Ann DeVore	R
MO	Margaret Kelly	R
MT	Andrea Bennett*	R
PA	Barbara Hafer	R

*MT auditor also serves as insurance commissioner.

TAX COMMISSIONER - 1		
ND	M.K. Heidi Heitkamp	D
COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION - 1		
FL	Betty Castor	D
SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - 4		
AZ	C. Diane Bishop	D
MT	Nancy Keenan	D
WA	Judith Billings	NP*
WY	Lynn Simons	D

*Election was nonpartisan.

COMMISSIONER OF LABOR - 1		
OR	Mary Roberts	D
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE - 1		
ND	Sarah Vogel	D
CORPORATION COMMISSIONER - 1		
AZ	Marcia Weeks	D
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONER - 1		
SD	Laska Schoenfelder	R

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[1] Women in American Politics, Martin Gruberg (Oshkosh, Wisconsin: Academia Press, 1968).

[2] National Association of Secretaries of State.

[3] The first woman elected attorney general was Arlene Violet (R-RI); elected in 1984, she served from 1985-87. Anne Alpern served as the appointed attorney general of Pennsylvania from 1959-61; at that time in Pennsylvania, the position was appointed.

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WOMEN ON COUNTY GOVERNING BOARDS 1988

In 1988, in the 47 states which have county governing boards, women hold 1653, or 8.9%, of the 18,483 available seats across the country.[1] Since 1975, the number of women elected to county governing boards has more than tripled.[2]

Year	Women Board Members	Total # of Positions	% of Women on County Boards
1975	451	16,549	2.7
1977	656	16,579	4.0
1979	958	18,084	5.3
1981	1128	18,341	6.2
1983	1427	18,341	7.8
1984	1476	18,379	8.0
1987	1594	18,474	8.6
1988	**1653**	**18,483**	**8.9**

Of the ten states with the greatest proportion of women serving on county governing boards, four (NH, AK, HI, NV) have fewer than 90 total positions on their governing boards.[3]

The ten states with the **highest percentages** of women county board members are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
New Hampshire	26.7	Michigan	17.3
Alaska	25.0	Oregon	17.2
Hawaii	24.2	Nevada	17.0
California	19.2	Pennsylvania	16.4
Maryland	17.8	New Mexico	15.7

Among these states, only one also ranks among the top ten in the percentage of women serving in state legislatures in 1988; New Hampshire ranks first in the percentage of women state legislators.

The ten states with the **lowest percentages** of women county board members are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
Mississippi	2.0	Kentucky	3.0
Alabama	2.0	Indiana	3.5
Oklahoma	2.2	Georgia	4.3
Utah	2.3	Missouri	4.7
Texas	2.9	Louisiana	4.9

Six of these states (MS, AL, OK, UT, KY, LA), also rank among the bottom ten in the percentage of women serving in state legislatures in 1988.

In 1988, every state with county governing boards has at least two women serving on those bodies.

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[1] Information is drawn from county and state directories. There is no county commissioner equivalent in Connecticut, Rhode Island, or Vermont.

[2] Over the period during which CAWP has been collecting these data, base figures and available information have changed frequently. Therefore, it may be inappropriate to make comparisons between figures for different years.

[3] This means that a relatively small number of women results in a high percentage. Other states with fewer than 90 total positions on county governing boards are: Arizona, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Utah, and Wyoming.

CAWP's Information Services Program is made possible in part by a grant from the L.J. Skaggs and Mary C. Skaggs Foundation.

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WOMEN COUNTY GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS: A COMPARISON BETWEEN 1988 AND 1981*

	1988				1981			
State	Rank	Number of Women	Total Number of Positions	Percentage of Women	Rank	Number of Women	Total Number of Positions	Percentage of Women
AL	46	7	348	2.0	39	9	272	3.3
AK	2	17	68	25.0	2	12	63	19.1
AZ	11	8	55	14.6	4	7	43	16.3
AR	26	71	761	9.3	14	64	751	8.5
CA	4	56	291	19.2	3	52	283	18.4
CO	25	18	192	9.4	23	13	185	7.0
CT	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
DE	19	2	19	10.5	29	3	19	15.8
FL	12	51	358	14.3	9	38	331	11.5
GA	40	28	650	4.3	38	22	587	3.8
HI	3	8	33	24.2	5	4	25	16.0
ID	18	14	132	10.6	30	8	141	5.7
IL	20	152	1516	10.0	18	117	1516	7.7
IN	41	10	283	3.5	1	59	283	20.9
IA	23	35	362	9.7	28	25	424	5.9
KS	30	24	313	7.7	22	23	322	7.1
KY	42	17	577	3.0	35	25	591	4.2
LA	38	32	649	4.9	42	20	643	3.1
ME	35	3	48	6.3	19	4	53	7.6
MD	5	21	118	17.8	16	9	111	8.1
MA	27	5	54	9.3	12	5	51	9.8
MI	6	123	711	17.3	6	129	839	15.4
MN	29	37	443	8.4	43	13	439	3.0
MS	47	8	410	2.0	47	8	410	2.0
MO	39	17	364	4.7	27	22	364	6.0
MT	21	18	180	10.0	26	10	168	6.0
NE	33	27	409	6.6	31	22	401	5.5
NV	8	10	59	17.0	25	4	62	6.5
NH	1	8	30	26.7	10	4	35	11.4
NJ	16+	15	133	11.3	8	17	135	12.6
NM	10	17	108	15.7	11	11	102	10.8
NY	14	131	1069	12.3	13	100	1069	9.4
NC	28	45	494	9.1	20	36	485	7.4
ND	37	11	221	5.0	40	7	219	3.2
OH	24	25	264	9.5	24	18	264	6.8
OK	45	5	231	2.2	44	6	231	2.6
OR	7	20	116	17.2	7	17	114	14.9
PA	9	35	214	16.4	15	16	195	8.2
RI	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
SC	15	36	309	11.7	21	21	290	7.2
SD	36	16	304	5.3	32	13	281	4.6
TN	32	117	1719	6.8	33	75	1678	4.5
TX	43	30	1020	2.9	45	25	1020	2.5
UT	44	2	87	2.3	41	3	94	3.2
VT	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
VA	22	49	498	9.8	46	12	498	2.4
WA	16+	15	133	11.3	17	10	124	8.1
WV	34	11	169	6.5	36	7	169	4.1
WI	13	241	1892	12.7	37	71	1892	3.8
WY	31	5	69	7.3	34	3	69	4.4
TOTALS		1,653	18,483	8.9		1,128	18,341	6.2

+States with same percentage are given same rank.

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*There is no county commissioner equivalent in Connecticut, Rhode Island, or Vermont. Data collection methods used in 1988 were different from those used in 1981. In 1988, state and county directories were used to determine the total number of available positions, except in Illinois where U.S. Census figures were used. In 1981, U.S. Census figures were used to determine the total number of available positions.

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CENTER FOR THE AMERICAN WOMAN AND POLITICS
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fact sheet

WOMEN APPOINTED TO PRESIDENTIAL CABINETS 1989

A total of **ten** women have held cabinet or cabinet-level appointments in the history of our nation. Of the ten, nine had cabinet posts, including two who headed two different departments, and one who held both a cabinet post and a position defined as cabinet-level; one of the appointees had a cabinet-level post. Six of these women were appointed by Republican presidents and four by Democrats.

Of the 40 men who have served as president, six (four Republicans and two Democrats) have appointed women to their cabinets. Since 1789, when the presidential cabinet was first established, **nine**, or **2%**, of the 436 people to hold cabinet posts have been women.[1]

The first woman appointed to a presidential cabinet was **Frances Perkins**, who was selected in 1933 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to head the Department of Labor. **Patricia Roberts Harris** is the only black woman ever to have held a cabinet position; no other woman of color has been appointed to a cabinet-level position. To date, nine cabinet or cabinet-level posts have been filled by women; two departments have had women in the top posts on two occasions, and the Department of Labor has had three women chiefs.

Appointee	Department	Appointed By	Dates
Frances Perkins	Labor	F.D. Roosevelt (D)	1933-45
Oveta Culp Hobby	Health, Education and Welfare	Eisenhower (R)	1953-55
Carla Anderson Hills	Housing and Urban Development	Ford (R)	1975-77
Juanita A. Kreps	Commerce	Carter (D)	1977-79
Patricia R. Harris	Housing and Urban Development	Carter (D)	1977-79
Patricia R. Harris	Health and Human Services	Carter (D)	1979-81
Shirley M. Hufstedler	Education	Carter (D)	1979-81
Jeane J. Kirkpatrick	U.N. Ambassador[2]	Reagan (R)	1981-85
Margaret M. Heckler	Health and Human Services	Reagan (R)	1983-85
Elizabeth Hanford Dole	Transportation	Reagan (R)	1983-87
Anne Dore McLaughlin	Labor	Reagan (R)	1987-89
Elizabeth Hanford Dole	Labor	Bush (R)	1989-present
Carla Anderson Hills	Special Trade Rep.[3]	Bush (R)	1989-present

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[1]Because each president defines cabinet-level differently, a combined figure for cabinet and cabinet-level positions is unavailable.

[2]The position of U.N. Ambassador was considered cabinet-level during the Reagan administration.

[3]The position of Special Trade Representative is currently considered cabinet-level.

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Among the appointees, five (Hills, Harris, Heckler, Hufstedler and Dole) have been **attorneys**; three (Kreps, Kirkpatrick and Harris) had backgrounds in **academe**. Seven of the women who have been appointed to cabinet posts had previously held other **federal offices**. Hobby, Hills and McLaughlin had high-level executive positions; Harris had been Ambassador to Luxembourg; Hufstedler had been a judge on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals; Heckler was a member of the House of Representatives from Massachusetts; Dole was a member of the Federal Trade Commission and headed the White House public liaison office.

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Elizabeth Hanford Dole (R) (Secretary of Transportation 1983-87, Secretary of Labor 1989-present), an attorney, served as a White House aide in the Johnson and Reagan administrations and was appointed by President Nixon to the Federal Trade Commission. She left her Reagan administration cabinet post to work for the presidential campaign of her husband, Kansas Senator Robert Dole.

Patricia Roberts Harris (D) (Secretary of Housing and Urban Development 1977-79, Secretary of Health and Human Services 1979-81) was the first black woman to serve in a presidential cabinet and the first woman to hold two different cabinet posts. An attorney and longtime Democratic party activist, she had taught law, served on corporate boards, and served as Ambassador to Luxembourg under President Johnson.

Margaret Heckler (R) (Secretary of Health and Human Services 1983-85) was a member of Congress (1967-83) representing suburban Boston and lost a re-election bid when redistricting forced her to run against another incumbent Congressman. Her cabinet service ended when President Reagan appointed her Ambassador to Ireland.

Carla Anderson Hills (R) (Secretary of Housing and Urban Development 1975-77, Special Trade Representative[1] 1989-present), an attorney, served as assistant attorney general in the Ford administration before her appointment as Housing and Urban Development secretary. Prior to her appointment to the Bush administration, she was a member of the Trilateral Commission and chaired the board of the Urban Institute while practicing law in Washington.

Oveta Culp Hobby (R) (Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare 1953-55) was named head of the Federal Security Administration; when that agency became part of the newly-established Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW), she became the first Secretary of HEW. She had been a colonel in the Women's Army Corps during World War II and had served as president of the Texas League of Women Voters.

Shirley Mount Hufstedler (D) (Secretary of Education 1979-81), an attorney, was the first person to head the newly-created Department of Education. She had been a federal judge on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and returned to practicing law when the Carter administration ended.

Jeane J. Kirkpatrick (United Nations Ambassador[2] 1981-85), a political scientist, taught at Georgetown University before joining the Reagan administration. A Democrat at the time of her appointment, she later switched parties. She wrote one of the earliest books about women and politics, Political Woman, based on information gathered at CAWP's first Conference for Women State Legislators.

Juanita Kreps (D) (Secretary of Commerce 1977-79) was the first economist to serve as Secretary of Commerce. She had been a professor and vice president at Duke University and had served on several corporate boards and on the board of the New York Stock Exchange prior to her appointment by President Carter.

Ann Dore McLaughlin (R) (Secretary of Labor 1987-89) worked in a variety of communications-related posts within and outside the government before becoming a cabinet member. She held two sub-cabinet posts in the Reagan administration: Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Public Affairs and Undersecretary of Interior.

Frances Perkins (D) (Secretary of Labor 1933-45), the first woman to serve in a president's cabinet, had a long background of labor-related public service, including serving as Industrial Commissioner in New York State, before coming to Washington. She was one of only two people to remain in the cabinet throughout Roosevelt's presidency, helping to draft and implement much of the New Deal legislation. She remained in office briefly after Roosevelt's death and later became a member of the Civil Service Commission under President Truman.

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[1]The position of Special Trade Representative is currently considered cabinet-level by the Bush Administration.

[2]The position of U.N. Ambassador was considered cabinet-level during the Reagan administration.

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CENTER FOR THE AMERICAN WOMAN AND POLITICS
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fact sheet

WOMEN IN STATE LEGISLATURES 1989

In 1989, **1262**, or **16.9%**, of the 7461 state legislators in the United States are women. Women hold 263, or 13.2%, of the 1995 state senate seats and 999, or 18.3%, of the 5466 state house or assembly seats. Since 1969, the number of women serving in state legislatures has more than quadrupled.

Year	Women Legislators	% of Total Legislators
1969	301	4.0
1971	344	4.5
1973	424	5.6
1975	604	8.0
1977	688	9.1
1979	770	10.3
1981	908	12.1
1983	991	13.3
1985	1103	14.8
1987	1170	15.7
1989	**1262**	**16.9**

The **party breakdown** for women serving in state legislatures in 1989 is:

	Total Legislatures		State Senates		State Houses	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Democrats	737	58.4	156	59.3	581	58.2
Republicans	515	40.8	97	36.9	418	41.8
Nonpartisans*	10	0.8	10	3.8	---	----
Total	1262		263		999	

The ten states with the **highest** percentages of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
New Hampshire	32.1	Washington	28.6
Maine	30.7	Wisconsin	26.5
Vermont	30.6	Kansas	25.5
Arizona	30.0	Idaho	24.6
Colorado	29.0	Hawaii	23.7

The ten states with the **lowest** percentages of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
Louisiana	2.1	Arkansas	7.4
Kentucky	5.1	Oklahoma	8.7
Alabama	5.7	South Carolina	8.8
Mississippi	5.8	Tennessee	9.1
Pennsylvania	6.7	New Jersey	9.2

Every state has at least three women in its state house, and only one state (Louisiana) has no women in its state senate.

Three women hold the highest ranking state legislative **leadership positions** in their states. One woman presides over a senate: Senate President Pro Tem Mary McClure (R-SD). Two women are speakers of houses: Representative Jane Hull (R-AZ) and Representative Vera Katz (D-OR).

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*The Nebraska Legislature is unicameral; legislators are elected on a nonpartisan basis.

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STATE	STATE RANK	SENATE D	SENATE R	TOTAL WOMEN/ TOTAL SENATE	HOUSE D	HOUSE R	TOTAL WOMEN/ TOTAL HOUSE	TOTAL WOMEN/ TOTAL LEGIS.	% WOMEN OVERALL
AL	48	0	1	1/35	7	0	7/105	8/140	5.7
AK	14	1	3	4/20	5	4	9/ 40	13/ 60	21.7
AZ	4	2	3	5/30	9	13	22/ 60	27/ 90	30.0
AR	45	2	0	2/35	7	1	8/100	10/135	7.4
CA	29	2	2	4/40	8	6	14/ 80	18/120	15.0
CO	5	2	5	7/35	9	13	22/ 65	29/100	29.0
CT	12	4	3	7/36	19	15	34/151	41/187	21.9
DE	26	2	2	4/21	2	4	6/ 41	10/ 62	16.1
FL	24	7	4	11/40	8	8	16/120	27/160	16.9
GA	39	1	1	2/56	18	4	22/180	24/236	10.2
HI	10	4	3	7/25	9	2	11/ 51	18/ 76	23.7
ID	9	6	3	9/42	5	17	22/ 84	31/126	24.6
IL	19	6	6	12/59	9	12	21/118	33/177	18.6
IN	33	6	5	11/50	5	6	11/100	22/150	14.7
IA	25	3	3	6/50	13	6	19/100	25/150	16.7
KS	8	5	4	9/40	16	17	33/125	42/165	25.5
KY	49	1	0	1/38	3	3	6/100	7/138	5.1
LA	50	0	0	0/39	3	0	3/105	3/144	2.1
ME	2	5	5	10/35	28	19	47/151	57/186	30.7
MD	13	6	0	6/47	31	4	35/141	41/188	21.8
MA	23	4	1	5/40	22	8	30/160	35/200	17.5
MI	30	1	1	2/38	12	8	20/110	22/148	14.9
MN	20	6	4	10/67	17	10	27/134	37/201	18.4
MS	47	2	1	3/52	7	0	7/122	10/174	5.8
MO	31	1	1	2/34	19	8	27/163	29/197	14.7
MT	21	5	1	6/50	16	5	21/100	27/150	18.0
NE	16	NONPARTISAN		10/49		UNICAMERAL		10/ 49	20.4
NV	15	1	2	3/21	8	2	10/ 42	13/ 63	20.6
NH	1	2	4	6/24	48	82	130/400	136/424	32.1
NJ	41	2	1	3/40	2	6	8/ 80	11/120	9.2
NM	34	3	1	4/42	5	6	11/ 70	15/112	13.4
NY	37	5	1	6/61	15	3	18/150	24/211	11.4
NC	32	3	1	4/50	12	9	21/120	25/170	14.7
ND	28	3	2	5/53	10	9	19/106	24/159	15.1
OH	35	1	2	3/33	10	3	13/ 99	16/132	12.1
OK	44	5	1	6/48	6	1	7/101	13/149	8.7
OR	17+	6	1	7/30	6	5	11/ 60	18/ 90	20.0
PA	46	2	0	2/50	7	8	15/203	17/253	6.7
RI	27	5	4	9/50	11	3	14/100	23/150	15.3
SC	43	1	1	2/46	10	3	13/124	15/170	8.8
SD	17+	6	2	8/35	6	7	13/ 70	21/105	20.0
TN	42	1	1	2/33	4	6	10/ 99	12/132	9.1
TX	38	2	1	3/31	11	5	16/150	19/181	10.5
UT	36	1	0	1/29	5	6	11/ 75	12/104	11.5
VT	3	6	0	6/30	26	23	49/150	55/180	30.6
VA	40	2	1	3/40	9	2	11/100	14/140	10.0
WA	6	5	5	10/49	22	10	32/ 98	42/147	28.6
WV	22	5	1	6/34	16	2	18/100	24/134	17.9
WI	7	1	3	4/33	18	13	31/ 99	35/132	26.5
WY	11	4	0	4/30	7	11	18/ 64	22/ 94	23.4
TOTALS		156 (10 nonpartisans)	97	263/1995	581	418	999/5466	1262/7461	16.9

+States with same percentage are given same rank.

4/3/89

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fact sheet

WOMEN IN THE U.S. CONGRESS 1989

In 1989, women hold **28** seats in the 101st U.S. Congress -- **2** in the Senate and **26** in the House of Representatives. This is the largest number of women ever to serve in Congress, three more than served from 1985 to 1988. Women hold **5.2%** of the 535 seats in Congress -- **2.0%** of the 100 Senate seats and **6.0%** of the 435 House seats.

The two women currently serving in the Senate are **Nancy Landon Kassebaum** (R-KS), elected in 1978 and re-elected in 1984, and **Barbara Mikulski** (D-MD), elected in 1986.

Twenty-six women from 19 states serve in the House of Representatives, including **15** Democrats and **11** Republicans. They are:

Helen Delich Bentley, R-MD
Lindy Boggs, D-LA
Barbara Boxer, D-CA
Beverly Byron, D-MD
Cardiss Collins, D-IL
Nancy Johnson, R-CT
Marcy Kaptur, D-OH
Barbara Kennelly, D-CT
Marilyn Lloyd, D-TN
Jill Long, D-IN
Nita Lowey, D-NY
Lynn Martin, R-IL
Jan Meyers, R-KS
Constance Morella, R-MD
Mary Rose Oakar, D-OH
Elizabeth Patterson, D-SC
Nancy Pelosi, D-CA
Marge Roukema, R-NJ
Patricia Saiki, R-HI
Claudine Schneider, R-RI
Patricia Schroeder, D-CO
Louise Slaughter, D-NY
Virginia Smith, R-NE
Olympia Snowe, R-ME
Jolene Unsoeld, D-WA
Barbara Vucanovich, R-NV

Senators **Kassebaum** and **Mikulski** were not up for re-election in 1988. All 23 incumbent women Representatives sought re-election and won in 1988. The two Representatives newly elected in the 1988 general election are: **Nita Lowey** (D-NY), who previously served as New York's assistant secretary of state, and **Jolene Unsoeld** (D-WA), who was a state representative. They are joined by **Jill Long** (D-IN), a former city councilwoman, who won a special election in March 1989. Women hold no leadership positions in the 101st Congress, and they do not chair any of the standing congressional committees.

A total of **127** (77D, 50R) women have served in the U.S. Congress to date, including **16** (9D, 7R) in the Senate and **113** (69D, 44R) in the House. Two women -- **Margaret Chase Smith** (R-ME) and **Barbara Mikulski** (D-MD) -- have served in both the House and the Senate.

The first woman elected to the House of Representatives was **Jeannette Rankin** (R-MT), who served from 1917 to 1919 and again from 1941 to 1942. The first woman to serve in the Senate was **Rebecca Latimer Felton** (D-GA); appointed in 1922, she served for one day. **Nancy Landon Kassebaum** (R-KS) is the first woman to have been elected to the Senate without having previously filled an unexpired Congressional term; **Barbara Mikulski** (D-MD) is the first Democratic woman to do so.

New York has had more women in its congressional delegation than any other state -- a total of fourteen to date, all in the House. California has sent nine women to the House and Illinois eight. Maryland has sent one woman to the Senate and six to the House; Connecticut, New Jersey, and South Carolina have each had five women in their House delegations. Four states -- Alabama, Louisiana, Nebraska, and South Dakota -- have been represented twice by women in the Senate. Ten states have never sent a woman to either the Senate or the House; they are Alaska, Delaware, Iowa, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

Five black women and two Asian-Pacific American women have served in the House of Representatives; all but one have been Democrats. No woman of color has ever served in the Senate. The first black woman to serve in Congress was **Shirley Chisholm** (D-NY); elected in 1968, she served until 1983. Four other black women have served in the House: **Yvonne Brathwaite Burke** (D-CA, 1973-1979), **Barbara Jordan** (D-TX, 1973-1979), **Katie Hall** (D-IN, 1982-1985), and **Cardiss Collins** (D-IL). First elected in 1973, Collins is the only black woman currently serving in Congress. **Patsy Takemoto Mink** (D-HI), who was the first Asian-Pacific American woman to serve in the House, was elected in 1964 and served until 1977; **Patricia Saiki** (R-HI), first elected in 1986, is the second.

Seven women, all of whom served prior to 1977, have chaired congressional committees: Senator **Hattie Caraway** (D-AR), and Representatives **Martha Griffiths** (D-MI), **Mae Nolan** (R-CA), **Mary Norton** (D-NJ), **Caroline O'Day** (D-NY), **Edith Rogers** (R-MA), and **Leonor Sullivan** (D-MO). No woman has ever been Speaker of the House or Majority or Minority Leader of the Senate.

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CONGRESS	DATES	WOMEN IN SENATE	WOMEN IN HOUSE	TOTAL WOMEN
65th	1917-1919	0 (0D, 0R)	1 (0D, 1R)	1 (0D, 1R)
66th	1919-1921	0 (0D, 0R)	0 (0D, 0R)	0 (0D, 0R)
67th	1921-1923	1 (1D, 0R)	3 (0D, 3R)	4 (1D, 3R)
68th	1923-1925	0 (0D, 0R)	1 (0D, 1R)	1 (0D, 1R)
69th	1925-1927	0 (0D, 0R)	3 (1D, 2R)	3 (1D, 2R)
70th	1927-1929	0 (0D, 0R)	5 (2D, 3R)	5 (2D, 3R)
71st	1929-1931	0 (0D, 0R)	9 (5D, 4R)	9 (5D, 4R)
72nd	1931-1933	1 (1D, 0R)	7 (5D, 2R)	8 (6D, 2R)
73rd	1933-1935	1 (1D, 0R)	7 (4D, 3R)	8 (5D, 3R)
74th	1935-1937	2 (2D, 0R)	6 (4D, 2R)	8 (6D, 2R)
75th	1937-1939	3 (2D, 1R)	6 (5D, 1R)	9 (7D, 2R)
76th	1939-1941	1 (1D, 0R)	8 (4D, 4R)	9 (5D, 4R)
77th	1941-1943	1 (1D, 0R)	9 (4D, 5R)	10 (5D, 5R)
78th	1943-1945	1 (1D, 0R)	8 (2D, 6R)	9 (3D, 6R)
79th	1945-1947	0 (0D, 0R)	11 (6D, 5R)	11 (6D, 5R)
80th	1947-1949	1 (0D, 1R)	7 (3D, 4R)	8 (3D, 5R)
81st	1949-1951	1 (0D, 1R)	9 (5D, 4R)	10 (5D, 5R)
82nd	1951-1953	1 (0D, 1R)	10 (4D, 6R)	11 (4D, 7R)
83rd	1953-1955	2 (0D, 2R)	12 (5D, 7R)	14 (5D, 9R)
84th	1955-1957	1 (0D, 1R)	17 (10D, 7R)	18 (10D, 8R)
85th	1957-1959	1 (0D, 1R)	15 (9D, 6R)	16 (9D, 7R)
86th	1959-1961	2 (1D, 1R)	17 (9D, 8R)	19 (10D, 9R)
87th	1961-1963	2 (1D, 1R)	18 (11D, 7R)	20 (12D, 8R)
88th	1963-1965	2 (1D, 1R)	12 (6D, 6R)	14 (7D, 7R)
89th	1965-1967	2 (1D, 1R)	11 (7D, 4R)	13 (8D, 5R)
90th	1967-1969	1 (0D, 1R)	11 (6D, 5R)	12 (6D, 6R)
91st	1969-1971	1 (0D, 1R)	10 (6D, 4R)	11 (6D, 5R)
92nd	1971-1973	2 (1D, 1R)	13 (10D, 3R)	15 (11D, 4R)
93rd	1973-1975	0 (0D, 0R)	16 (14D, 2R)	16 (14D, 2R)
94th	1975-1977	0 (0D, 0R)	19 (14D, 5R)	19 (14D, 5R)
95th	1977-1979	2 (2D, 0R)	18 (13D, 5R)	20 (15D, 5R)
96th	1979-1981	1 (0D, 1R)	16 (11D, 5R)	17 (11D, 6R)
97th	1981-1983	2 (0D, 2R)	21 (11D, 10R)	23 (11D, 12R)
98th	1983-1985	2 (0D, 2R)	22 (13D, 9R)	24 (13D, 11R)
99th	1985-1987	2 (0D, 2R)	23 (12D, 11R)	25 (12D, 13R)
100th	1987-1989	2 (1D, 1R)	23 (12D, 11R)	25 (13D, 12R)
101st	1989-1991	2 (1D, 1R)	26 (15D, 11R)	28 (16D, 12R)

Please note: table shows maximum number of women elected or appointed to serve in that Congress at one time. Some filled out unexpired terms; some were never sworn in and one was a non-voting delegate from pre-statehood Hawaii.

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fact sheet

WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 1989

In 1989, more women are serving in Congress than ever before. Three states have women governors. The number of women in state legislatures is more than four times larger than it was twenty years ago. But women still hold only a small minority of elective offices; at no level of office do women hold more than 16.9% of the available positions.[1]

CONGRESS In 1989, women hold **28**, or **5.2%**, of the 535 seats in the 101st U.S. Congress. **Two** women serve in the **U.S. Senate:**

Nancy Landon Kassebaum, R-KS **Barbara Mikulski**, D-MD

Twenty-six women from nineteen states serve in the **U.S. House of Representatives**, including fifteen Democrats and eleven Republicans. They are:

Helen Delich Bentley, R-MD
Lindy Boggs, D-LA
Barbara Boxer, D-CA
Beverly Byron, D-MD
Cardiss Collins, D-IL
Nancy Johnson, R-CT
Marcy Kaptur, D-OH
Barbara Kennelly, D-CT
Marilyn Lloyd, D-TN
Jill Long, D-IN
Nita Lowey, D-NY
Lynn Martin, R-IL
Jan Meyers, R-KS
Constance Morella, R-MD
Mary Rose Oakar, D-OH
Elizabeth Patterson, D-SC
Nancy Pelosi, D-CA
Marge Roukema, R-NJ
Patricia Saiki, R-HI
Claudine Schneider, R-RI
Patricia Schroeder, D-CO
Louise Slaughter, D-NY
Virginia Smith, R-NE
Olympia Snowe, R-ME
Jolene Unsoeld, D-WA
Barbara Vucanovich, R-NV

STATEWIDE OFFICES Women hold **45**, or **13.6%**, of the 330 statewide elective executive positions in 1989.[2]

Three women serve as **governors**: **Madeleine Kunin**, a Vermont Democrat, elected in 1984 and re-elected in 1986 and 1988; **Kay Orr**, a Nebraska Republican, who in 1986 became the first Republican woman elected governor of any state; and **Rose Mofford**, an Arizona Democrat. Mofford was re-elected secretary of state in 1986; when Governor Evan Mecham was impeached and convicted by the legislature in April of 1988, Mofford became governor.

Four women serve as **lieutenant governors**: **Martha Griffiths** (D-MI), **Marlene Johnson** (DFL-MN), **Evelyn Murphy** (D-MA), and **Jo Ann Zimmerman** (D-IA).

Mary Sue Terry (D-VA), elected **attorney general** of Virginia in 1985, is the second woman ever elected to that post in any state.

Women hold statewide elective **secretary of state** positions in **eleven** states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

Women hold statewide elective **state treasurer** positions in **ten** states: Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

Six states -- Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Missouri, Montana, and Pennsylvania -- have women **state auditors**. In North Dakota the **tax commissioner** is a woman. In Arizona, Montana, Washington, and Wyoming women serve as **superintendents of public instruction**, and the **commissioner of education** in Florida is a woman. In Oregon the **commissioner of labor** is a woman, and in North Dakota the **commissioner of agriculture** is a woman. One of the **corporation commissioners** in Arizona is a woman, as is one of the **public utilities commissioners** in South Dakota.

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[1]Offices included are: U.S. Congress, statewide elective executive offices, state legislatures, county governing boards, mayoralties, and municipal and township governing boards.

[2]These numbers do not include: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

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A note to users of our fact sheets: Please credit the Center for the American Woman and Politics (CAWP), National Information Bank on Women in Public Office, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University.

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STATE LEGISLATURES

In 1989, **1262**, or **16.9%**, of the 7461 state legislators in the United States are women. Women hold 263 state senate seats and 999 state house seats. The number of women serving in state legislatures has more than quadrupled since 1969 when 301, or 4%, of all state legislators were women.

The ten states with the **highest percentages** of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
New Hampshire	32.1	Washington	28.6
Maine	30.7	Wisconsin	26.5
Vermont	30.6	Kansas	25.5
Arizona	30.0	Idaho	24.6
Colorado	29.0	Hawaii	23.7

COUNTY GOVERNING BOARDS

In 1988, in the 47 states which have county governing boards, women held **1653**, or **8.9%**, of the 18,483 available seats across the country.[1] Between 1975 and 1988, the number of women serving at the county governing board level more than tripled, rising from 456 in 1975, to 1653 in 1988.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

In February 1989, among the 100 largest cities in the U.S., 13 have women mayors; 3 of these women mayors serve in cities among the 10 largest. In order of city population,[2] the mayors are: **Kathy Whitmire** (Houston, TX - 4th largest city); **Maureen O'Connor** (San Diego, CA - 7); **Annette Strauss** (Dallas, TX - 8); **Sophie Masloff** (Pittsburgh, PA - 35); **Sue Myrick** (Charlotte, NC - 44); **Donna Owens** (Toledo, OH - 46); **Anne Rudin** (Sacramento, CA - 49); **Sandra Freedman** (Tampa, FL - 54); **Betty Turner** (Corpus Christi, TX - 58); **Peggy Rubach** (Mesa, AZ - 60); **Geline Williams** (Richmond, VA - 72); **Barbara Fass** (Stockton, CA - 84); and **Vicki McNeill** (Spokane, WA - 95).

The U.S. Conference of Mayors reports that in February 1989, of the 880 mayors of U.S. cities with populations over 30,000, **107**, or **12.2%**, are women.

In 1985, women comprised **14.3%** of mayors and municipal council members in the states for which complete data were available. There were **14,672** women elected to these posts out of a total of 102,329 officials.[3] The percentage of women holding municipal and township offices more than tripled from 1975 to 1985, rising from 4% to 14.3%.

PERCENTAGES OF WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICES

Level of Office	1975	1977	1979	1981	1983	1985	1987	1989
U.S. Congress	4%	4%	3%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%
Statewide Elective[4]	10%	8%	11%	11%	13%	14%	15%	14%+
State Legislatures	8%	9%	10%	12%	13%	15%	16%	17%
County Governing Boards[1]	3%	4%	5%	6%	8%	8%(1984)	9%	9%(1988)
Mayors & Municipal/Township Governing Boards	4%	8%	10%	10%	NA[5]	14%[3]	NA[5]	NA

+Although there has been an increase in the number of women serving, the percentage decrease between 1987 and 1989 (14.6% to 13.6%) reflects a change in the base used to calculate this percentage (from 43 out of 295 in 1987 to 45 out of 330 in 1989).

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[1]The three states without county governing boards are CT, RI, and VT.

[2]According to 1986 data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

[3]Includes data from Washington D.C.. States for which data were incomplete and therefore not included are: IL, IN, KY, MO, PA, WI.

[4]These numbers do not include: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

[5]CAWP currently updates municipal figures every four years.

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